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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
30 May 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Arab-Israeli Situation Report
(As of 1600 EDT)

1. Jordan's King Husayn and Egyptian President Nasir signed a mutual defense pact in Cairo on 30 May. The signing was broadcast live and witnessed by an assortment of dignitaries including Husayn's long-time bete-noire, Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chief Ahmed Shukayri. Shukayri later accompanied Husayn back to Amman. The agreement is couched in general terms similar to those of the November 1966 Syrian/Egyptian pact, but includes a clause stating that "in the event of the beginning of military operations, the Chief of Staff of the UAR armed forces shall assume command of operations in both states." A joint Defense Council consisting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defense or War in both countries and a Joint Command will be established.

3. Nasir's stock in Jordan is at its zenith and Husayn's visit is being hailed as the harbinger of a holy war against Israel. Emotions in Western Jordan, which faces Israel, are at a war pitch.

DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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5. A Reuters item on 30 May reporting that the Soviets have requested Turkish permission for ten warships to pass through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles during the first week in June is apparently an exaggerated account of routine Soviet naval activity in the area.

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6. UAR ground forces in Sinai are now up to an estimated 68,000, including 15,000 Palestine Liberation Army troops in Gaza.

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On the Israeli side, the USDAO in Tel Aviv feels that overall mobilization now exceeds the 55-65% reported previously, and that mobilization may have reached the 75% range--approximately 169,000 ground forces.

7. In Cairo, Egyptian General Rikhye of the UN Emergency Force has told Ambassador Yost from the US Mission to the UN that Egypt would probably not directly resist armed interference by maritime powers to keep Aqaba open but that there would be widespread retaliation throughout the Arab world against all participating powers. He also indicated that he is hopeful that both sides will come to accept UN military observers along the Egyptian-Israeli border.

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10. Press reports out of Tel Aviv announced today that Israeli Finance Minister Sapir left for the US today to launch a crash money-raising drive. Other leading Israelis are also scheduled to travel abroad to take advantage of the crisis for fund-raising purposes.

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